

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a recording system and method, a recording apparatus and method, an input device and method, a playback system and method, a playback apparatus and method, a recording medium, and a program in which content can be flexibly protected according to whether or not the content should be protected. When mutual authentication is conducted with an AV board 112 by a mutual authentication unit 121 and when the content input into the mutual authentication unit 121 is encrypted with a common key, an input/output controller 122 determines that the content to be input via a bus 113 is to be protected on the bus 113. The input/output controller 122 then controls a recording/playback processor 123 to generate protection information "0", indicating that the content is to be protected on the bus 113, and records the generated protection information on an optical disc 141 together with the content. The present invention can be applied to an optical-disc recording/playback apparatus.